

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3342

To require activities carried out by the United States in Afghanistan and other countries of Central Asia relating to peace negotiations, post-conflict reconstruction and development, refugee relief, resettlement, and repatriation, and peacekeeping operations comply with the basic human rights of women.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA (for herself and Mrs. MALONEY of New York) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

A BILL

To require activities carried out by the United States in Afghanistan and other countries of Central Asia relating to peace negotiations, post-conflict reconstruction and development, refugee relief, resettlement, and repatriation, and peacekeeping operations comply with the basic human rights of women.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Access for Afghan
5 Women Act of 2001”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) Before 1996, women in Afghanistan could
4 exercise their basic human rights and 70 percent of
5 teachers, nurses, doctors, and small business owners
6 in Afghanistan were women.

7 (2) More than 90 percent of Afghan men and
8 women believe that women should have access to
9 education and work, freedom of expression, legal
10 protection, and participation in government. Re-
11 spondents also support the inclusion of women's
12 human rights issues in any peace negotiations with
13 respect to Afghanistan.

14 (3) Women make up more than 75 percent of
15 the refugees in camps, urban areas, and villages in
16 Afghanistan. On the Afghanistan border with Paki-
17 stan many organizations, including women's organi-
18 zations, are delivering critical services to refugees
19 and such women's organizations have the knowledge
20 and experience to assist the United States in deliv-
21 ering effective relief aid to women.

22 (4) The active participation of women in the
23 government, economy, and society of Afghanistan is
24 necessary to ensure lasting peace in the region.

25 (5) During major conflicts in the region, women
26 have maintained local economies and have led the ef-

1 fort in rebuilding economies after conflicts. Effective
2 development and reconstruction assistance, including
3 microcredit assistance, takes into account women's
4 roles as economic leaders.

5 **SEC. 3. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO UNITED STATES AC-**
6 **TIVITIES IN CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
8 sion of law, activities described in subsections (b) through
9 (e) that are carried out by the United States in Afghani-
10 stan and other countries of Central Asia shall comply with
11 the applicable requirements contained in such subsections.

12 (b) PEACE NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH GOVERN-
13 MENT OF AFGHANISTAN.—With respect to peace negotia-
14 tions to establish a future government of Afghanistan, the
15 applicable requirements are the following:

16 (1) Consult with and include representatives of
17 women's organizations and networks from the major
18 ethnic groups in Afghanistan during peace negotia-
19 tions and post-conflict decisionmaking.

20 (2) Include the perspectives and advice of orga-
21 nizations with expertise in human rights and wom-
22 en's development in decisionmaking processes relat-
23 ing to peace and the future government of Afghani-
24 stan.

1 (3) Ensure that the full range of human rights
2 of women, as described in the International Conven-
3 tion on Civil and Political Rights and the Universal
4 Declaration of Human Rights, are included in any
5 constitution or legal structure of a future govern-
6 ment in Afghanistan by including a significant num-
7 ber of women in the drafting of the constitution.

8 (c) POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVEL-
9 OPMENT.—With respect to activities relating to post-con-
10 flict stability in Afghanistan and other countries of Cen-
11 tral Asia, the applicable requirements are the following:

12 (1) Provide financial and programmatic assist-
13 ance for the efforts of Afghan women’s organizations
14 that represent the various ethnic groups.

15 (2) Promote multi-year women-centered eco-
16 nomic development programs, including programs to
17 assist widows and female heads of household.

18 (3) Increase women’s access to and ownership
19 of productive assets such as land, agricultural in-
20 puts, and microfinance, and property.

21 (4) Provide financial assistance for primary,
22 secondary, and higher education for all individuals in
23 Afghanistan.

24 (5) Provide financial assistance to build health
25 infrastructure and to deliver women-centered health

1 programs, particularly comprehensive and high qual-
2 ity reproductive health and family planning services.

3 (6) Integrate education and training programs
4 for former combatants with economic development
5 programs to encourage their reintegration into soci-
6 ety and to promote post-conflict stability.

7 (7) Support educational efforts to increase
8 awareness with respect to landmines, facilitate the
9 removal of landmines, and provide services to indi-
10 viduals with disabilities caused by landmines.

11 (8) Provide assistance to rehabilitate children
12 affected by the conflict, particularly child soldiers.

13 (d) RELIEF, RESETTLEMENT, AND REPATRIATION
14 OF REFUGEES.—With respect to the relief, resettlement,
15 and repatriation of refugees in Afghanistan and other
16 countries of Central Asia, the applicable requirements are
17 the following:

18 (1)(A) Take all necessary steps to protect
19 women refugees in camps, urban areas, and villages
20 fleeing from the conflict situation in Afghanistan
21 from violence.

22 (B) Take all necessary steps to ensure that
23 women refugees in camps, urban areas, and villages
24 fleeing from the conflict situation in Afghanistan are
25 directly receiving food aid, shelter, relief supplies,

1 and other services from United States-sponsored
2 programs.

3 (C) Take all necessary steps to ensure that
4 women refugees in camps, urban areas, and villages
5 are accessing high quality health and medical serv-
6 ices, particularly reproductive, maternal, and child
7 health services.

8 (2) Take all necessary steps to ensure that ref-
9 ugees that choose to return voluntarily to their place
10 of origin can do so in safety, dignity, and with pro-
11 tection of their rights. United States-sponsored ef-
12 forts shall not coerce or encourage refugees to re-
13 turn to their places of origin.

14 (e) PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS.—With respect to
15 peacekeeping operations in Afghanistan and other coun-
16 tries of Central Asia, the applicable requirements are the
17 following:

18 (1) In preparation for deployment of peace-
19 keeping missions, provide training, guidelines, and
20 materials to military, police, and civilian personnel
21 on the protection, rights, and the particular needs of
22 women, as well as on the importance of involving
23 women in all peacekeeping and peace building meas-
24 ures.

1 (2) Encourage individuals and organizations
2 that will provide training to consult with women’s
3 organizations within and outside of Afghanistan and
4 other countries of Central Asia to develop appro-
5 priate training content and materials.

6 (f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “other
7 countries of Central Asia” means Pakistan, Tajikistan,
8 Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

9 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

10 Not later than 60 days after the date of the enact-
11 ment of this Act, the President shall prepare and transmit
12 to Congress a report that contains documentation (includ-
13 ing documentation using data disaggregated by gender)
14 of the progress in implementing the requirements of sec-
15 tion 3.

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